

CHRISTIAN PETERSON

Lehi Centennial History 1850-1950

Christian Peterson, son of Jens and Maren Frost Peterson, was born September 28, 1861, in Margers, Denmark.

When the Latter-day Saint Elders came, this family accepted the gospel and were baptized into the church in 1859. They came to America in 1862, when Christian was but an infant, and came to Lehi to make their home.

Christian was religiously brought up and was steadily advanced in the priesthood. At 21 he was ordained an Elder.

His family often attended General Conference in Salt Lake City. While staying at the Frederick Peterson home on one such visit, he met Mary Peterson and romance came into his life.

Mary, daughter of Frederick and Annette Halverson Peterson, was born November 6, 1863, in Salt Lake City. Her parents were early pioneers, her mother having come from Norway, and her father from Denmark.

Mary's foundation of early religious training built for her, joy, satisfaction and happiness all through the years. Her opportunities were similar to those of other pioneer children. At the age of eight she started school, which she attended three months a year for four years. She was very studious and reading became an art with her. This her father especially appreciated, due to his handicap of poor vision. She would spend hours reading to him from the Bible and other church works which he loved.

Mary and Christian were married in the Endowment House on February 15, 1883.

After living in Salt Lake City a short time, they moved to Lehi to make their home. To them were born four sons: Fred, Roy, Norman, and Rulon, and four daughters, Mrs. Luella Christofferson, Mrs. Delia Worley, Mrs. Mabel Street, and Mrs. Jennie Parker.

One daughter, Delia, filled a mission to the Northern States.

Mary devoted all her time and efforts to her home and her family. She worked in the Primary and Relief Society organizations. Faith and prayer motivated her every action.

Chris was one of Lehi's outstanding farmers and always his work was organized and his farm well-kept. He was a quiet, unassuming man, thrifty and energetic. He was ever considerate of those less fortunate - the poor, the widows and the orphans.

In 1901 he went to Colorado for the summer, to work for the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company, taking a group of Lehi boys with him to work in the beet fields. For years after that he was employed during the summers for the same Company as a beet sampler in Lehi and vicinity.

Chris and Mary lived to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary together. A year and a half later Christian died at the age of 72, on August 28, 1935, in Lehi, Utah.

Mary lived alone for fourteen years but was comforted by the companionship of her eight children, all of whom lived within a three mile radius of the family home. She died April 25, 1948, in Lehi, Utah.